

# The Alexandria Gazette.

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**SOUTHERN NEWS.**—Extracts from the Richmond papers are given in the Northern papers—from these we copy the following:

The Whig contains a long letter from Wm. C. Rives, protesting against the suspicions entertained of his fealty, which recently caused his defeat for the Senate. He also defends the secession proclivities of the members of his family who reside North.

The Richmond papers are complaining of the character and quality of a number of the women sent from Washington to Richmond lately. The Enquirer demands that "steps shall be taken to protect the community from these characters," and the Charleston Courier says the women behaved scandalously on the voyage, and calls the thing "an abuse of the flag of truce."

The steamer Giraffe—blockade runner—recently conveyed to Richmond, among others, W. P. Burwell, now of Richmond.

Second Lieut. Eli E. Barrett, 21st Michigan, and First Lieut. John F. Elliott, 36th Illinois, captured at Murfreesboro', have been turned over to the civil authorities at Atlanta, charged with attempting to pass counterfeit Confederate money. If convicted, the Whig says, they will hang.

The Jackson Appeal says: "If there are any fears of the safety of Port Hudson, let them be at once dismissed. All the Yankees in the world, &c., could not reduce Port Hudson."

Ex-Governor Wm. D. Moseley, of Florida, is dead.

Chas. J. Faulkner is Adjutant General on Jackson's staff, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

The conscription law is being enforced everywhere throughout the South, with greatly increased rigidity.

R. W. B. Hodgson, receiver, offers for sale 45,000 acres of registered land in Florida.

Gen. Daniel E. Donelson succeeds Gen. E. Kirby Smith in the command of the Confederate Department of East Tennessee.

Dispatches from North Carolina indicate the advance of the Federal forces there in two columns, one against Kinston, and the other towards Wilmington. The proceedings of the N. C. Legislature show considerable restiveness towards the Confederate government, and the Raleigh Standard denounces it. The Confederate account of the affair at Galveston states that only about thirty of the crew of the Harriet Lane were killed or wounded.

The Richmond Dispatch, Jan. 23d, says: "Passengers by the Central train last evening, report that a severe snow storm has prevailed at Staunton, Charlottesville, and other points, for the past two days. The snow yesterday morning, according to these statements, was 18 inches deep."

The Charleston Mercury states that a great amount of land in South Carolina was planted in corn the past season, and an enormous crop was expected, but a severe drouth cut short the yield, and the crop will not be larger than last year. The rice crop has been curtailed by the removal of the planters from the tide-water region, but those who planted obtained good crops.

The Federal officers in Gates county, N. C., have made important captures of contraband goods, amounting in value to some \$30,000.

## LATEST FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The steamship Edinburg, with Liverpool dates to the 14th instant, has arrived in port.

Official documents explaining the foreign policy of the French government were recently distributed among the Legislative corps.—These documents say that mediation in American affairs is postponed in consequence of the refusal of England and Russia to join France, but the Emperor has not refrained from acquainting the Cabinet at Washington that his government is still ready to mediate, provided the American government desire that France should facilitate the task of peace, either alone or collectively in whatever way may be pointed out to her.

The recall of Gen. Butler is regarded with satisfaction by the majority of the English journals, and is considered hopeful, although not an act of grace.

The news by the Scotia, particularly as to the movements of the democrats, was construed as favorable to peace; but the Etna's advices dispelled the idea.

The emancipation proclamation claimed serious attention.

The Morning Post terms it the death warrant of the United States, and says it would be a terrible act if it could be enforced, but regards it as wholly inoperative. The Star thinks that whatever may be its immediate effect, it rings a death knell for slavery. The Telegraph says that the rancor and contempt of the South must be increased immediately; and if the measure is successful, never will a military triumph be purchased at so awful a price.

The Times reiterates its former diatribes against it.

The Banks of England and France have raised the rates of discount 1 per cent.

Cotton had advanced from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1d. Breadstuffs steady. Provisions heavy.

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says:—"Many persons are investing their surplus revenues in watches and jewelry, as well as real estate. Some of the Broadway jewelry establishments never did a better business than at present. It is no uncommon thing for them to sell a hundred gold watches at a time to private individuals, not at all connected with the trade. The value of the watches, of course, is enhanced to a point corresponding with the dearthness of gold—but the investment, nevertheless, is considered a safe if not a profitable one. Many small capitalists would prefer investing in real estate, but are prevented from doing so, owing to the high prices asked on Manhattan Island, and so there is a sharp inquiry for vacant lots over the river, in New Jersey. All along the shore, from Newark avenue to West Hoboken and Weehawken, the transfers of property during the current month have been very extensive in a small way. Lots, 25 by 100, ranging from \$400 to \$1,000, are in most demand."

Stoughton Bliss, of Ohio, who arrested Dr. Edson B. Olds, has himself been arrested by the sheriff of Fairfield county, and taken to Lancaster. He had a preliminary hearing and gave bail in the sum of \$1,000 for his appearance at the next term at the Court of Common Pleas of Fairfield county, Ohio.

**THE PACIFIC RAILROAD GAUGE.**—The following is from the "Cincinnati Times":—"His enemies may say what they please of the President, he is undoubtedly a great compromiser. He settles everything by compromise—likes to settle difficult questions by compromise. An incident has just occurred highly illustrative of that quality in the President. Among his duties is that of fixing the gauge of the Pacific Railroad. A pressure was brought to bear upon him by the railroad companies. The Ohio and Mississippi and the New York and Erie expecting some day to be connected, urged the broad gauge, so that one day cars could run on the same track from New York to the Pacific. The narrow gauge men brought a volume of facts to bear against the broad gauge, and urged the President to adopt instead their width of track. The President listened patiently to both parties, and finally concluded to compromise. He did not adopt the broad gauge nor the narrow gauge, but the gauge between the two—five feet—and has therefore given the Pacific road a gauge of its own, unlike any in the country."

The following abstract of the Report of the Confederate Secretary of the Treasury is published in the Washington Star:

The report of the Confederate Secretary of the Treasury has been published. The debt of the Confederacy at the close of December last was \$556,105,162. The expenditures from the 18th of February, 1862, up to December 31st, were \$416,671,735. The additional amount required to carry on the government to the 1st of July next, will be \$290,493,713. The debt of the Confederacy will therefore be, at that date, \$46,598,075. The funded debt of the Confederacy on December 31st amounted to \$80,986,490. Up to that time \$85,775,500 worth of interest-bearing Treasury notes had been issued, besides \$260,149,692 worth of Treasury notes exclusive of those bearing interest. Of the two classes of Treasury notes outstanding at the close of the year, the aggregate was \$399,625,092.

While ice dealers are bewailing "a short crop," there is in Boston and elsewhere, an abundant supply. On Jamaica Pond, near Boston, the ice is ten inches thick. On another pond in the same vicinity it is thirteen inches thick, and many tons are daily carried thence into the city.

The official report of the late movement up the White river in Arkansas, states that the flotilla proceeded to Duvall's Bluff and captured the fortifications there. It is believed that the loss of the guns by the Confederates renders it difficult for them to defend Little Rock, and the State is now considered completely under Federal control.

The English correspondent of the Christian Freeman says that the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, of London, was recently presented with a plum cake, which was found, before it was eaten, to contain sufficient poison for the destruction of half a dozen people.

The Providence Post boasts of a subscriber residing in that city who has bathed in the water, near the head of the cove, every morning during the last thirteen years—in the winter cutting a hole through the ice.